

JONATHAN E. FIELDING, M.D., M.P.H.
Director and Health Officer

JONATHAN E. FREEDMAN
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 975-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Gloria Molina
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

October 5, 2011

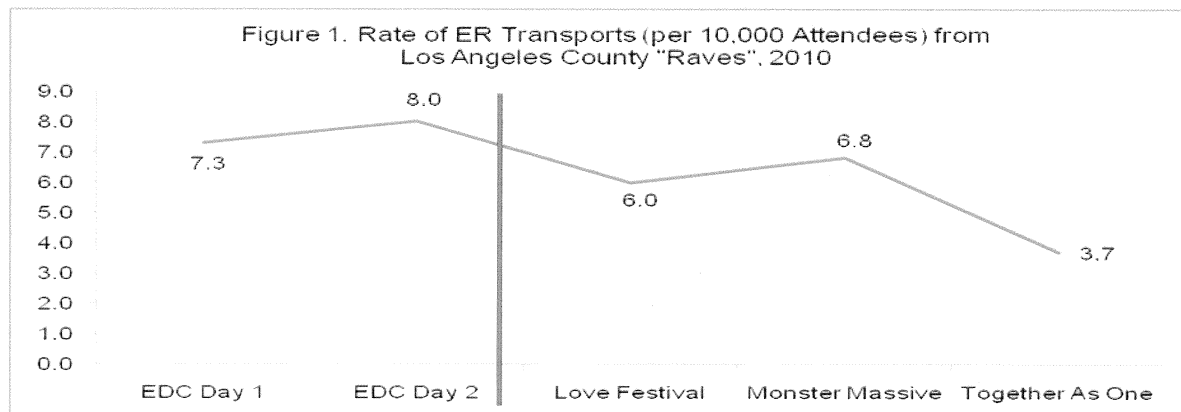
TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. *JE Fielding*
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **UPDATE ON RAVE MOTION**

On December 7, 2010, Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Knabe offered a motion (Attachment 1) to adopt recommendations developed by the Los Angeles County Task Force on Raves and Electronic Music Festivals as general policy direction for all electronic music festivals (or raves) in Los Angeles County. The motion also instructed Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) to report back to the Board by September 30, 2011 with an evaluation of the success or failure of health and safety precautions implemented at all major electronic music festivals in Los Angeles County (LAC) occurring between June 1, 2010 and August 31, 2011.

In order to measure performance of the recommended actions, DPH collected data from the three events held at the Los Angeles Sports Arena and Exposition Park: LA Love Festival (held on August 21, 2010), Monster Massive (held on October 23, 2010), and Together As One (December 31, 2010) and included the number and types of medical transports, number of arrests, prevention messaging efforts (e.g., banners, safety cards), age-restriction changes (e.g., ID checks to ensure attendees 18 and over), and safety measures (e.g., seizure of contraband, increased undercover officers). Based on the analysis, DPH found that the rate of medical transports to Emergency Rooms (ER) declined from six transports per 10,000 attendees at the Love Festival to 3.7 transports per 10,000 attendees at Together As One (Figure 1).



Additionally, law enforcement data for these three events revealed that although the number of arrests increased from the Love Festival to the Monster Massive event (96 and 102 arrests, respectively), due to increased stringent enforcement, the number decreased during the Together As One event (34 arrests). The majority of these arrests were drug-related felonies and misdemeanors or related to the possession of false identification.

Through the efforts of the Task Force, numerous strategies were successfully implemented to improve the public health at these events. Education and awareness efforts regarding the dangers of ecstasy included: prominently displayed banners and electronic message boards about the dangers of use and of overdose; educational materials distributed to attendees, and a public service announcement. The topic was discussed by local media outlets and social networking sites online, thereby raising general public awareness, especially among youth and young adults. DPH also met with representatives from Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to explore ways to disseminate information on ecstasy and other drugs to LAUSD students.

Numerous issues and public debate surrounding mega-raves in Los Angeles County prompted promoters to move the 2011 Electric Daisy Carnival to the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, and promoters for the Love Festival, Monster Massive, and Together As One moved the events to Orange County. DPH provided local governmental agencies in Las Vegas and Orange County with copies of the recommendations developed by the Task Force to help them prepare for the events. If future rave events are scheduled in Los Angeles County, DPH will promote and enforce the health and safety measures and recommendations.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like additional information.

JEF:bl
PH:1012:008

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

AGN. NO.____)

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
AND DON KNABE

December 7, 2010

On November 5, 2010, the Board received a report from the Department of Public Health (DPH) in response to our July 6, 2010 motion regarding electronic music festivals, which are also referred to as "raves." This report was the product of four months of effort on the part of DPH, the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), along with other parties including the Coliseum Commission and event promoters, all of whom worked together to develop a set of recommendations to improve safety at these events. Among these are the following key recommendations that are fundamental to ensuring safety for all patrons at electronic music festivals or raves:

- conduct multi-agency pre-event planning
- conduct a threat assessment of each event and develop an Event Action Plan (EAP)

MOTION

MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

- impose an 18-year minimum age requirement for all attendees
- require easily identifiable plastic/vinyl wristbands for attendees aged 21 and older
- institute cool down breaks during the event and a cool down period at the conclusion of the event (music sets/performances will conclude no later than 2:00 AM)
- distribute substance use prevention and harm reduction materials
- require key event staff including security and vendors to be briefed on signs and symptoms of drug overdose and heat related problems
- ensure the presence of onsite medical and health personnel
- develop and distribute a public service announcement concerning the dangers associated with the use of "ecstasy," especially under conditions frequently encountered at raves
- draft an after action report following each rave event.

We applaud the departments as well as the industry for their collaborative work on this important issue.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

- (1) Adopt the above key recommendations and the full list of recommendations from the Los Angeles County Task Force on Raves and Electronic Music Festivals (Task Force) as general policy direction for all electronic music festivals (or raves) in Los Angeles County, whether these events take place at private or public venues.
- (2) Instruct the Executive Office to send a five-signature letter to the promoters and sponsoring entities of all electronic music festivals held in Los Angeles County within the past five years, and of all such festivals currently planned; and to all electronic

music festival venue operators, law enforcement agencies, and emergency medical service providers within Los Angeles County, encouraging them to adopt and implement the above key recommendations and the full list of recommendations from the Task Force at all electronic music festivals held within Los Angeles County.

This letter should also include a copy of the November 5th report from the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the full list of recommendations from the Task Force.

- (3) Instruct DPH to report back to the Board by September 30, 2011 with an evaluation of the success or failure of health and safety precautions implemented at all major electronic music festivals in Los Angeles County occurring between June 1, 2010 and August 31, 2011. This report should also examine whether the key recommendations were implemented and if safety was improved compared to previous events.